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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, November 12, 1987 -- Freight traffic carried on major U.S. railroads during the week ended November 7 totaled an estimated 19.5 billion ton-miles, 6.7 percent above the corresponding week of 1986, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 45 weeks of 1987 was an estimated 800.3 billion ton-miles carried, up 5.2 percent from the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings originated in the week ended November 7 totaled 437,959, up 5.6 percent from the corresponding week of last year, but 1.1 percent below the preceding week. Compared with last year, carloadings originated were up 3.5 percent in the East and 8.1 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week last year, 14 of the 20 major commodity groups increased. Coal loadings increased by 5,198 cars (4.3 percent), while crushed stone, gravel and sand showed a gain of 2,302 cars (15.4 percent). Loadings of metals and products were up 3,160 cars (42.5 percent), and coke increased by 2,041 cars (52.8 percent). Fourteen of the 20 commodity groups decreased from the preceding week.

Piggyback

The AAR reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended October 31 totaled 109,710 trailers and/or containers, 2.9 percent above last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 44 weeks of the year was 4,350,749 trailers and/or containers, up 3.0 percent from 1986.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 11/07/87:

	Loadings in Week ended November 7, 1987		Change from Corresponding Week 1986			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	31,600	D	2,769	8.1	I	828	2.7
Other farm products	4,058	D	828	16.9	I	53	1.3
Metallic ores	18,307	I	1,295	7.6	D	2,030	10.0
Coal	125,960	I	5,198	4.3	D	666	0.5
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	17,230	I	2,302	15.4	I	237	1.4
Nonmetallic minerals	9,438	I	444	4.9	I	654	7.4
Grain mill products	11,188	D	109	1.0	D	70	0.6
Food and kindred products	12,190	I	324	2.7	I	65	0.5
Primary forest products	9,950	D	761	7.1	D	96	1.0
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,536	I	81	1.1	D	1,169	13.4
Pulp, paper and allied products	11,738	D	114	1.0	D	166	1.4
Chemicals and allied products	25,996	I	1,992	8.3	D	6	0.02
Petroleum products	4,810	I	531	12.4	D	250	4.9
Stone, clay and glass products	11,427	I	1,089	10.5	I	16	0.1
Coke	5,906	I	2,041	52.8	D	286	4.6
Metals and products	10,599	I	3,160	42.5	D	348	3.2
Motor vehicles and equipment	21,612	I	499	2.4	D	407	1.8
Waste and scrap materials	9,849	I	1,671	20.4	D	230	2.3
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	2,990	D	273	8.4	D	264	8.1
All other carloads	85,575	I	7,526	9.6	D	786	0.9
Total Cars Loaded	437,959	I	23,299	5.6	D	4,921	1.1
Corresponding week of 1986	414,660						

	1987	1986	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (45 weeks)	18,026,004	17,241,058	I 4.6
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
44 Weeks ended October 31	780.8	742.4	I 5.2
Week ended November 7	19.5	18.3	I 6.7
45 Weeks cumulative	800.3	760.7	I 5.2

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